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Office—State Historical Building, Des Moines

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TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD

If we lose the peace, we lose the war. But what is peace? Peace is more than the terms imposed upon Germany; it is more than any treaty, trade pact, or agreement signed with a golden pen. Peace is the social order intended to be created as the result of measures taken jointly by our own and other political leaders. But only effective support and cooperation by every individual citizen in each of the countries concerned will actually bring about peace. No matter how wisely conceived, no plan can work, especially in a democratic country, without citizen support.

It is already "the year of decision." When the peace plans come before our Congress for consideration, then the hour of decision will be upon us. After twenty-seven years of fear and anxiety and almost six years of agony and destruction, fate has again provided the opportunity to build a better world. If we fail now, this opportunity will not come again until after another and more terrible conflict. In this campaign to awaken each citizen to the problems and issues involved, let's not leave a single book unused or pamphlet buried in its files.

Every librarian will welcome the coming Building-the-Peace program as a made-to-order opportunity for library participation. We must promote thinking **about** the subject but without telling people **what** to think. It is our chance to render a public service of inestimable value. Let's do our job well.

Carl Vitz, A.L.A. President

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